



ORDERS CONCEIVED BY the Lords of His Majesties Priuie Councell, and

by his highnesse speciall direction, commanded strictly to bee put in execution, for the restraint of killing and eating of flesh this next Lent, and to be executed, aswell by the Lord Mayor within the Citie and Suburbs of London, and by the Officers of the Liberties and exempt places in and about the same, As by Order to bee prescribed through all the Counties of this Realme, to the Iustices of Peace, Lords of Liberties, and Officers of Corporate Townes.

January 20. In the fourteenth yeere of his Majesties Reigne of Great Britaine,
France and Ireland.

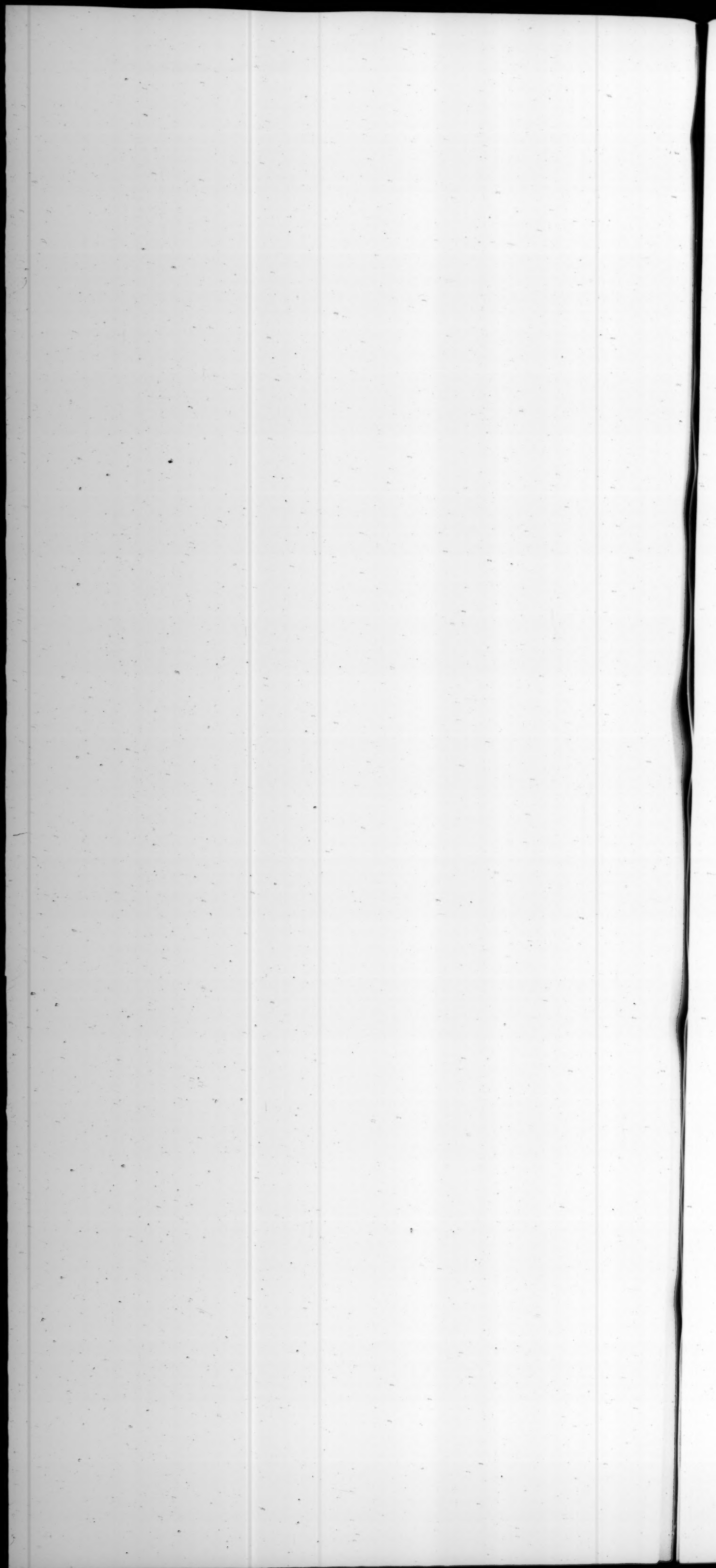


Orasmuch as it appeareth, that the chiefeest cause of all abuse and disorder in the dew obseruation of Lent, hath growne from the Licences, that haue bene graunted to Butchers to kill and vtter flesh contrary to Law: And that it is plaine, that no Mayor, Iustice of Peace, or other person, of what degree or qualitie soeuer, can graunt any Licence in this kinde: And that we of his Majesties Priuie Councell doe forbear to graunt any such Licence, or to giue way thereunto: It is therefore ordered vpon the Penalties provided by Law, and such further punishment to bee inflicted vpon the offenders, as shall bee thought meet, that no such Licence be graunted for the killing or vttering of flesh, and that no Butcher, or other person whatsoeuer, doe kill, vtter or put to sale any flesh, contrary to the Lawes established and provided in that behalfe.

And for the auoyding of such inconueniences, as haue risen by disorders in this kinde: The Lord Mayor of London, and euery other Officer and Iustice of Peace, shall call before them, and send for any of the Seruants of any Inholders, Victualers, Cookes, Tauer-ners, and keepers of ordinary Tables, and such others that vtter Victuals, to examine them vpon their corporall Oathes, what flesh is, or hath bene, during the Lent season, dressed, killed, vttered, or eaten in their houses; which if they shall refuse to doe, then to commit to Prison the said Seruants, so refusing vpon their Oathes to declare the truth.

That the Lord Mayor shall now presently before Lent, or at the beginning thereof, cause all Inholders, keepers of ordinary Tables, Victualers, Alehouse-keepers, and Tauer-ners within the Citie and Liberties thereof, to appeare before him, or such persons as hee shall appoint meet for that purpose, and shall take Bonds with sufficient Sureties of euery of them in good summes of money, viz. one hundred pounds the Principall, and the Sureties thirtie pounds apiece, to his Majesties vse, not to dresse any flesh in their houses this Lent time, for any respect, nor suffer it to be eaten: The like Bonds with Sureties shalbe taken of the like persons vpon like Penalties, by the chiefe Officers of Westminster, and the Liberties thereof, and euery of the said Bonds to be certified into his Majesties Exchequer.


And for the Butchers and others that come with Victuals of flesh out of the Countrey to the Citie, the Lord Mayor shall cause certaine persons to watch at the Gates, and other like places in the Suburbs, where flesh may be brought in, to view and search, and to intercept the same: and if any of those watchmen be found negligent and corrupt in his charge, then he to be committed to Prison during the whole Lent.



AND to the end the Fishermen may imploy themselves to Sea, With better encouragement then heretofore; And that the Fishmongers may furnish themselves With such store from time to time hereafter as shall be expedient, as well for the provision of the Citie, as for selling the same at reasonable rates: They are hereby required to take notice of his Maiesties commandement, and constant resolution for the obseruance of Lent, and Fish dayes both now and hereafter, as by Law is required.

AND forasmuch as the vse and libertie now taken, is so farre declined from the abstinence, and moderation of former times, as in stead of fasting, and forbearing Suppers on Fridayes both in Lent, and other times, which heretofore was duely obserued: there is now nothing more vsuall, then to make speciall chouse of Friday nights for Suppers and entertainment, and to marke out those dayes for riot and excesse, to the great offence and scandall of Government: For the auoyding whereof, as it is to be wished, that euery man would be a rule of order to himselfe, in his owne house, as well in respect of the Publique, as of his private ease and commodity: So his Maiestie doth straitly charge and command all Inholders, Keepers of Ordinary Tables, Victualers, Alehouse-keepers and Tauerneers, not to make any Supper for any person, or persons whatsoever vpon Friday nights, either in Lent or out of Lent, nor to suffer any Meate to be then dressed, vttered, sold, or eaten in their houses, vpon such punishment, as is due to those that shall contemne his Maiesties Royall pleasure and commandement.

AND as these Orders are expressly deuised to be executed in the Citie of London and places neere to the same: So his Maiesties pleasure and Commandement is, That the execution of these, or like Orders be performed by the commandement of his Maiesties Iustices of Peace in all Shires within their Rule, and to all other Officers in Townes Corporate, or in any Liberties, with like order for the Bonds to be taken to his Maiesties vse, and certified in to the Exchequer: And that no manner of toleration, fauour or conniuenie be vsed by any Iustice of Peace, or other Officer, contrary to the true meaning of these Orders, as both they that shall presume wittingly so to tolerate the offence, as also the Party himselfe offending will answer the same at their vttermost perils. It being his Maiesties expresse pleasure, that his Lawes in this case shall be hereafter seuerely executed vpon all offenders whatsoever.

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Anno Dom. 1617.

